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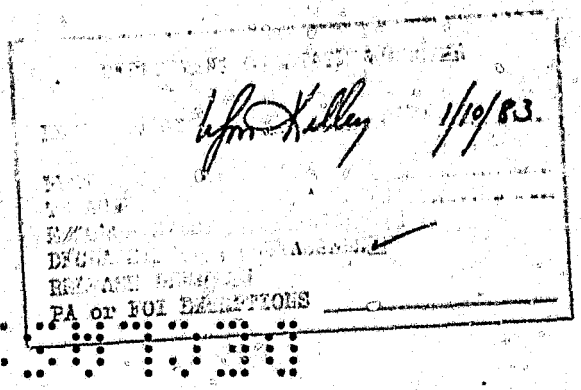
Case 820350

Defense 7890; Statement from OASD

A U.S. Navy court of inquiry is in session at Valletta, Malta, where the U.S.S. Liberty has arrived. The court, under Read Admiral Isaac C. Kidd, USN, is inquiring into all aspects of the attack. The court is expected to be in session approximately one week. A comprehensive statement will be made public when its completed report is ready.

Many rumors and reports about the attack have been circulating. The Department of Defense has no evidence to support some of these rumors and reports. Others appear to be based on partial evidence. Some appear to be accurate on the basis of present information here, which is incomplete. Until the court has had an opportunity to obtain the full facts, the Department of Defense will have no further comment.



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CLEARANCE: NEA/IAI - Alfred L. Atherton, Jr.

DRAFT: NEA/IAI:GBLambrakis:ef:6/14/67

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